

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 12, 2004, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6, 8-16 and 18-34 remain pending in the application. Claims 35-41 have been cancelled, but the subject matter recited therein has been rewritten into their respective base claims. Claims 18, 19 and 22-24 have been amended to replace "light-emitting device" with "light modulation device" to correct for antecedence in these claims. Applicant submits that these modifications only include subject matter previously before the Examiner, and therefore the modifications raise no new issues requiring further consideration. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the modifications be entered. Claims 28-34 remain allowable over the art of record. Claims 2-6, 8-16, and 18-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Takahara in view of Biegelsen (both references are previously of record). Applicant submits the following comments in traversal of the rejection.

Applicant has amended the independent claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11 to include the subject matter of cancelled claims 35-41 to describe the direct connection of the ferroelectric gate field effect transistor to the first data line. Applicant would submit that the amendments should be entered because they were previously pending before the Examiner and thus raise no new issues. Applicant would further submit that the combination of Takahara and Biegelsen does not teach the feature included in these claims, and in fact teaches away from this feature due to the driving conditions required in Biegelsen.

In particular, Applicant would submit that the disclosed structure in Biegelsen does not permit direct connection of the gate to a data line. Rather, the gate becomes connected to a data line 58 via a transistor element 54, having a gate 56. The transistor 54 has a particular function in the Biegelsen reference, such that if the output of an amplifier 16 differs from a predetermined reference value, the read voltage is removed from a line 58, and high voltage pulses of proper polarity are applied to that line. The high voltage pulses change a polarization of the ferroelectric gate transistor such that by applying a proper number and intensity of pulses on a line, the desired output on the line for a given illumination is achieved. Col. 6, lines 38-53. The transistor 54 is used to isolate pixel cells in order to determine such a proper intensity. Col. 7, lines 41-43. Since the transistor 54 is necessary for this purpose, the direct connection between the gate of the ferroelectric gate and the data line is not taught by Takahara and Biegelsen. In fact, the references in combination teach away from such a direct connection. Applicant further notes that Biegelsen is unable to provide the increased writing speed that is possible with the structure of the present invention.

Applicant would further submit that pending prior claim 27 already describes the direct gate connection and is patentable for the reasons set forth above.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 2-6, 8-16, and 18-34 are in condition for allowance. Therefore it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 09/161,699

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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